



MEDIA ADVISORY

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GLORIA MOLINA TO HONOR LOS ANGELES FIRE COMMISSIONER JOE SANCHEZ

City's First Latino Fire Commissioner Appointed by Mayor Bradley in 1973

LOS ANGELES (August 4, 2010)—Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Gloria Molina will join L.A. City Councilmen Ed Reyes, Jose Huizar, Tom LaBonge, and others to honor Los Angeles Fire Commissioner Joe Sanchez—who has served on the commission since 1973—tomorrow at Los Angeles Fire Station #1 in Lincoln Heights at 11:25 a.m.

- WHO:** Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina
Los Angeles Fire Commissioner Joe Sanchez
Los Angeles City Councilmen Ed Reyes
Los Angeles City Councilman Jose Huizar
Los Angeles City Councilman Tom LaBonge
- WHAT:** Bronze Plaque Unveiling to Honor L.A. Fire Commissioner Joe Sanchez
- WHEN:** Thursday, August 5, 2010 at 11:25 a.m.
- WHERE:** Los Angeles Fire Station #1
2230 Pasadena Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90031

BACKGROUND: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Gloria Molina is proud to be honoring Los Angeles Fire Commissioner Joe Sanchez. Under his leadership, Latino firefighters, paramedics, and civilians increased tremendously in large part because Sanchez was such a tireless advocate for social justice who insisted on fairness for all people regardless of race, color, creed, or national origin. During his service on the commission, the Bilingual Emergency Training Program was established—which teaches Firefighters emergency phrases in Spanish to aid in saving the lives of Spanish-speaking residents—and Fire Prevention brochures were published in Spanish (among numerous other efforts). Sanchez also fought hard for policy changes to ensure equity for minorities. Though Sanchez was first appointed to the commission by Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley in 1973, he has been active in civic affairs for decades. He was a founding member of the Mexican American Political Association (MAPA) and fought alongside the United Farm Workers in the 1970s. In addition to being a generous philanthropist and a prolific fundraiser for numerous worthy causes, Sanchez has also lent his time and expertise to the Mexican Chamber of Commerce, the Mexican American Bar Association, the East Los Angeles College Foundation, the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, and the Latin Business Association.

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